

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

Mail Code 1900L

November 2, 2001

Chief Administrative Law Judge

Kathleen M. Hennessey, Esquire Office of General Counsel DaimlerChrysler Corporation 1000 Chrysler Drive, CIMS 485-13-62 Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2766

Re: DaimlerChrysler Corporation Docket No. RCRA-05-2001-0015

Dear Ms. Hennessey:

This Office offers an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process to facilitate the settlement of adjudicative cases. Please advise me by November 16, 2001, whether you would like to participate in ADR in connection with the above cited case. The ADR process will be conducted pursuant to the Dispute Resolution Act of 1990, 5 U.S.C. Secs. 571-583, by a Judge of this Office serving as a neutral. The process will be entirely voluntary and completely confidential; both these points, together with general procedures, are reviewed below.

<u>Voluntary</u> ADR will be utilized in a case only with the consent of both parties; the choice to use or not to use ADR is without prejudice to either party. If ADR is utilized, either party may terminate the process at any time.

<u>Confidential</u> The ADR process will be conducted in a confidential manner, in accord with Section 584 of the Dispute Resolution Act of 1990. The Judge who serves as the neutral will not disclose to anyone the contents of any of the parties' ADR communications.

<u>Procedures</u> A Judge in this Office will serve as a neutral. The ADR Judge will ordinarily begin by arranging a telephone conference with the parties to establish procedures. The specific role the ADR Judge will play will be determined after consultation with the parties.

<u>Authorization to Commit</u> For the ADR process to be effective, the persons communicating with the neutral must either have authority to commit his or her side to a settlement, or have ready access to somebody with such authority.

<u>Duration</u> Unless terminated earlier by either party, the ADR process will continue for 60 days from the date of the case assignment to the ADR Judge; after that time, if no settlement has been reached, the case will be assigned to another Judge to commence the litigation process.

Follow Up At the termination of the ADR process, I will send the parties a questionnaire to elicit their views and experience with the process. The contents of individual questionnaires will be kept confidential and will be made available to the neutrals and others only in a composite format.

Again, please inform me in writing or by phone (202-564-6255) by November 16, 2001, if you would like to use the ADR process that I have described. If you do not respond by the deadline, it will be assumed that you do not wish to participate in ADR and the case will be assigned immediately to a Judge for litigation. No extension of the deadline for deciding whether you wish to participate in ADR will be granted.

The mailing address if sent by mail is U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Administrative Law Judges, Mail Code 1900L, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460-2001. Hand-delivered packages transported by Federal Express or another delivery service which x-rays their packages as part of their routine security procedures, may be delivered directly to the Offices of the Administrative Law Judges at 1099 14<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 350, Washington, DC 20005.

Very truly yours,

Susan L. Biro

Chief Administrative Law Judge

cc: Kathleen M. Hennessey, Esquire Sonja Brooks-Woodard, Regional Hearing Clerk



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

Mail Code 1900L

November 2, 2001

Chief Administrative Law Judge

Karen L. Peaceman, Esquire Associate Regional Counsel U.S. EPA 77 West Jackson Blvd., C-14J Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Re: DaimlerChrysler Corporation Docket No. RCRA-05-2001-0015

Dear Ms. Peaceman:

This Office offers an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process to facilitate the settlement of adjudicative cases. Please advise me by November 16, 2001, whether you would like to participate in ADR in connection with the above cited case. The ADR process will be conducted pursuant to the Dispute Resolution Act of 1990, 5 U.S.C. Secs. 571-583, by a Judge of this Office serving as a neutral. The process will be entirely voluntary and completely confidential; both these points, together with general procedures, are reviewed below.

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Very truly yours,

Susan L. Biro

Chief Administrative Law Judge

cc: Karen L. Peaceman, Esquire Sonja Brooks-Woodard, Regional Hearing Clerk